

BUTOMACEAE: A NEW FAMILY RECORD FOR NORTH DAKOTA

Butomus umbellatus L., flowering rush, was collected on July 25, 1972, four miles south of Valley City, North Dakota (SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 9, R58W, T139N). Scattered colonies in flower were found growing in shallow water along the shoreline and on silted gravel bars of the Sheyenne River for a distance of about four miles (Godfread 4640, 4882, and 4926, NDA). These stations were revisited in 1973 and 1974 and the colonies were increasing in size.

Butomus umbellatus is a native of Eurasia but has become established along the St. Lawrence River Valley. Herbarium records indicate that the species existed in Quebec in 1916. Rousseau (1966) indicates that *B. umbellatus* and another Eurasian introduction, *Lythrum salicaria* L., purple loosestrife, are common along the shoreline of the St. Lawrence River, appearing to be as much in equilibrium as if in their native habitat. It is interesting to note that *L. salicaria* is also well established along the Sheyenne River near Valley City.

Since its introduction into North America, *Butomus umbellatus* has become established at widely scattered localities. In 1956 it was found in Idaho. It was collected in Wisconsin for the first time in 1957, and it is known from Flathead County, Montana (Hahn, 1973). In 1972 it was reported from Rice County, Minnesota, while Van Bruggen (1972) reports *B. umbellatus* in South Dakota from Faulk County, 150 miles south of the North Dakota plants along the Sheyenne River. The establishment of *B. umbellatus* in North Dakota is apparently rather recent. Mr. and Mrs. Russell Pederson, who own adjacent farmland, first noticed the plants five or six years ago.

LITERATURE CITED

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